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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/933,558	08/20/2001	Mushtaq Ahmed	70147	6555

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MCGLEW & TUTTLE, PC
P.O. BOX 9227
SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NY 10510-9227

EXAMINER

KNOWLIN, THJUAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2642	

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/933,558	Applicant(s) AHMED ET AL.	
	Examiner Thjuan P. Knowlin	Art Unit 2642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 04/18/05, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New grounds of rejection are set forth below.
2. To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:
 - (1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,
 - (2) request reinstatement of the appeal.
3. If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson et al (US 6,262,979), in view of Cohen (US 6,332,153).

5. In regards to claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 16, and 17, Anderson discloses a conference call and network telephone system (See Fig. 1 and Fig. 2), comprising: one or more network (See Fig. 2, Network 1 12, and Network 2 14); three or more telephone units interconnected by said one or more network to provide three or more participants of a conference call, at least one of said telephone with receiving and sending data packets including voice data packets (See col. 5 lines 14-32); a display (See Fig. 2, Fig. 5, address table 72 and computer system 14) connected to at least one of said telephone units or forming a part of at least one of said telephone units (See col. 8 lines 46-49 and col. 8-9 lines 66-3); and an input device (See Fig. 2 and I/O devices 15 [e.g., the handset]) associated with said display for selecting any of the telephone units from the conference call participant information and dropping the selected telephone unit from the conference call (See col. 5 lines 33-37). Anderson, however, does not disclose a device for monitoring calls of at least one of said telephone units to provide data to said display for showing conference call participant information as to the telephone units participating in the conference call. Cohen, however, does disclose a device for monitoring calls (See Fig. 4 and conference bridge server 40) of at least one of said telephone units to provide data (See col. 6 lines 25-28) to said display (See Fig. 4 and display(s) 44) for showing conference call participant information as to the telephone units participating in the conference call (See col. 6 lines 20-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ this feature within the system, as a way of allowing the participant of the

conference call, to be able to see all of the other participants of the conference call, which is in progress.

6. In regards to claim 2, Anderson discloses a conference call telephone system, wherein at least two of said three or more telephone units receive and send data packets including voice data packets (col. 5 lines 14-32).

7. In regards to claim 4, Anderson discloses a conference call telephone system, wherein said display is provided as part of at least one of said telephone units receiving and sending data packets and said input device is provided as part of at least one of said telephone units receiving and sending data packets (col. 3 lines 37-39, col. 4 lines 24-40, and col. 6 lines 25-33).

8. In regards to claims 5 and 14, Anderson discloses a conference call telephone system, wherein said input device includes a button positioned adjacent to said display and a portion of said display indicating the function of said button (col. 3-4 lines 65-10 and col. 6 lines 25-33).

9. In regards to claims 6, 7, and 15, Anderson discloses a conference call telephone system, wherein said display is a display associated with a computer network (computer system 14) device (col. 4 lines 50-52), and said input device is provided as part of said computer network device (Fig. 2, col. 4 lines 41-56, and col. 7-8 lines 59-7).

10. In regards to claims 10, 11, 12, and 13, Anderson discloses all of claims 10, 11, 12, and 13 limitations, except a conference call telephone system, further comprising a network call processor connected to said distributed network for monitoring data traffic to and from said plurality of network telephones, said call processor establishing a

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conference call including generating a list of all participants and forwarding the list to one or more of said plurality of network telephones in said list of all participants for sending multicast or unicast transmission to the network address based on said list of all participants. Cohen, however, does disclose a conference call telephone system, further comprising a network call processor (See Fig. 4 and conference bridge server 40) connected to said distributed network for monitoring data traffic to and from said plurality of network telephones (See Fig. 4 and telephone unit(s) 43), said call processor establishing a conference call including generating a list of all participants and forwarding the list to one or more of said plurality of network telephones in said list of all participants for sending multicast or unicast transmission to the network address based on said list of all participants (See col. 6 lines 20-28).

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Pendse et al (US 6,396,510) teach a method and apparatus for scheduling a multi-point electronic conference. Schoof, II (US 5,440,624) teaches a method and apparatus for providing adaptive administration and control of and


electronic conference. Namikata et al (US 5,996,003) teach a conferencing system, terminal, apparatus communication method and storage medium for storing the method.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P. Knowlin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

15. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thjuan P. Knowlin


AHMAD F. MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2700